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27 November 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Science and Technology)

SUBJECT : Daily Activity Report - 27 November 1963

1. SATELLITE SCHEDULE: No change.

2. GOLDEN TREE: Mission 3782 landed 26/1314 EST. Pilot reports 70% coverage - no reaction. Mission 3783 scheduled for 27/1120 Z take-off.

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3. [redacted]

a. Aircraft out for periodic inspection. No flight activity.

b. Detachment maintaining personnel readiness standby capability on 12 hour alert basis.

4. EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE:

a. Detachment finalizing preparations for staging operation to Ranney Air Force Base, Puerto Rico on 29 November 1963 for coverage of [redacted] targets.

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b. Detachment maintaining standby operational readiness capability on 12 hour alert basis.

5. OXCART Flight Status, 26 November 1963:

a. There were six OXCART flights on 26 November 1963.

b. Aircraft #121 made Flight #93 for the purpose of speed altitude envelope extension. Design Mach 3.2 was achieved and maintained for more than one minute. Maximum altitude was 78,000 feet. Mild roughness was encountered above Mach 3.05. It was not uncomfortable; engines and spikes were smooth throughout flight.

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c. Aircraft #122 made Flight #38 for the purpose of investigation of inlet roughness. Maximum speed was 2.35 Mach, maximum altitude - 65,000 feet, flight duration - 1:02 hours.

d. Aircraft #124 made Flight #170 for the purpose of instrument proficiency. Maximum speed was 1.18 Mach, maximum altitude - 43,600 feet, flight duration - 1:25 hours.

e. Aircraft #124 made Flight #171 for the purpose of air refueling training. Maximum speed was Mach 1.14; maximum altitude - 38,000 feet; flight duration - 1:29 hours.

f. Aircraft #125 made Flight #135 for the purpose of pilot training. Maximum speed was Mach 2.35; maximum altitude - 70,000 feet; flight duration - 0:51 hours.

g. Aircraft #129 made Flight #9 for the purpose of spike control tests and engine operation during descent. Maximum speed was 2.63 Mach; maximum altitude - 77,000 feet; flight duration - 0:48 hours.

6. OTHER:

a. On Saturday, 23 November, a briefing portfolio on the OXCART Program was prepared and submitted to the DD(S&T) for the Director's use in briefing President Johnson on the subject of "advanced U. S. reconnaissance capability".

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b. [redacted] Assistant Chief Engineer, Pratt and Whitney, West Palm Beach, Florida, will visit OSA on 27 November to review OXCART engine development, performance and flight test matters.

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c. [redacted] OSA, reports from Edwards Air Force Base that the [redacted] equipment installation in U-2 #342 is almost finished. It is expected that ground power tests of the installed equipment will be conducted about 26/27 November.

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d. [redacted] OSA, visited Minneapolis-Honeywell, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on 26 November to review OXCART autopilot and stability augmentation system flight test results and status.